

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kevin M. Cottrell et al.

Application Serial No.: 10/821,663 Filed : April 9, 2004

Confirmation No. : 8789 Group : 1626

Examiner : Golam M. Shameem, Ph.D.

For : INHIBITORS OF SERINE PROTEASES, PARTICULARLY  
HCV NS3-NS4A PROTEASE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O.Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the application as follows: